

EXHIBIT 2  
DATE 3-24-11  
SB 283

Representative Gary MacLaren  
Chairman Local Government Committee  
Montana State Legislature  
Helena Montana

RE: SB 283 County Boundary Change  
Jeff Essmann, Sponsor

Dear Mr. MacLaren, and members of the committee

I do not agree with Senate Bill 283 as it is written. It does not allow for a public hearing, and it does not let the tax payers know what the cost of the proposed changes in county boundaries would be.

Please consider amending the bill to include a more specific purpose for petitioning a county boundary change and a process to analyze the benefits of the change. Please also consider an amendment to allow for a public hearing after a full disclosure of the costs of such action.

I do think we need to establish a process to consider a county boundary change, however it would be a bad situation to get into the middle of it before the taxpayers knew the costs of such action.

From initial information that I was given, it appears that this process could cost a property owner thousands of dollars. If this is in fact what the costs are, many landowners could lose their property because they could not afford pay the costs assessed against their property to complete the boundary change.

I was raised in rural Montana northwest of Billings and other than four years in the service I have lived and worked in Montana for over 35 years. My primary residence is south of McLeod Montana in Park County.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Joseph Hanser  
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